IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the patent application of:

OGATA et al.

Application No.: Unassigned Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Divisional Application of Application No. 09/382,589

Filed: Herewith Examiner: Unassigned

Title: **WIDE-RANGE TYPE THERMISTOR ELEMENT AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME**

* * * *

November 28, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-7.

Please amend claims 8-14 as follows:

8. (Amended) A method of producing a [the] thermistor element having a mixed sintered body $M^1M^2O_3 \cdot Y_2O_3$ of a composition $M^1M^2O_3$ and Y_2O_3, wherein M^1 is at least one element selected from the elements of the groups IIA and IIIA excluding La in the Periodic Table, and M^2 is at least one element selected from the elements of the groups IIB, IIIB, IVA, VA, VIA, VIIA and VIII [of claim 1], which comprises: performing calcination to obtain $M^1M^2O_3$ having an average particle diameter larger than that of said Y_2O_3;

mixing said $M^1M^2O_3$ with said Y_2O_3; grinding the mixture to adjust an average particle diameter of the mixture after grinding to an average particle diameter which